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Wednesday, August 31, 2011

Local and National

One of the few unconventional mediums that can be appreciated in the show is the work by Peter Hiers who uses found objects, specifically: tire treads. The fabricated rubber contains inherent associations with mass distribution systems tied with consumerism, as well as long-term ecological concerns. Hiers' sculpture *Declaration of Dependence* reflects the graceful malleability of the material but denotes the dependency society has developed around this compound rubber. A major champion of this medium is the artist [Chakaia Booker](#) who has unpacked complex associations and characteristics, including femininity and blackness. In Hiers' series, there is a minimalist approach with a clear-cut critique.

Perhaps out of the 786 entries, a large part of the response was from California, as the West Coasters dominated the exhibition. Considering this outcome, can this show be considered more representative of our Golden State? Notwithstanding the evident strengths of the exhibition, for a national show, the diverse disciplines of the object-based arts were not as evident.

Posted by Irene at [11:28 PM](#)



Peter Hiers *Declaration of Dependence*, n.d.